



Public Works Commission

Regular Meeting
PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION
Minutes

Thursday, March 3, 2005

North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst Avenue

CALL TO ORDER: 7:10 p.m.

Present: Commissioners Alward, Dacey, Edwards, Holland, Jackson, Ongerth, Prevo, Shumer, St. John

Absent: None

PUBLIC COMMENT

John Ringewald, representing Local 790, questioned whether relocating the Clean City Program to the Transfer Station would realize savings due to economy of scale, noting that the Corporation Yard is actually closer to the downtown area. He also believes that many employees would prefer not to relocate there. He further suggested that the City could save money by citing homeowners with trash in front of their property. Lastly, on the subject of consolidation with the Transportation Office, rather than achieving cost savings, he observes that more high-level positions are created, whereas the department is already "top heavy."

CHAIR REPORT:

Some form of response will be provided at the next meeting on issues raised during the public comment.

STAFF REPORT:

1. Statements of Economic Interest are due April 1, 2005.
2. The staff storm drainage presentation is postponed to the April 7, 2005 meeting.

ACCOMMODATIONS PROVIDED UPON REQUEST

To request meeting materials in large print, Braille, or on cassette, or to request a sign language interpreter, assistive listening device, real-time captioning or other accommodation for the meeting, call 981-6406 (voice) or 981-6903 (TDD) as soon as possible. Providing at least five (working) days' notice will help to ensure availability at the meeting.

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3. The Commission reports on Measure B and on the Sanitary Sewer Study are now on the March 15, 2005 Council agenda.
4. Commissioner Edwards has agreed to become chair of the Private Sewer Lateral Subcommittee.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: There were no other announcements.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The February 3, 2005 minutes were approved as submitted (MSC St. John/Dacey with a vote of 7-0-1, Edwards arriving late, Alward abstaining).

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Report on Implementation and Financial Analysis of the Private Lateral

Proposal: Commissioners Shumer, Edwards and Dacey indicated that the subcommittee has reviewed the staff report and recommends that the Commission approve it in its entirety. Commissioner Ongerth stated that it appeared that it could cost as much as \$100,000,000 when it is done and questioned whether there may be a more cost-effective solution. The report was approved as submitted (MSC Dacey/Edwards with a vote of 7-1-1, Ongerth opposed, Alward abstaining).

2. Report on Street Litter Impacts on Storm Water System: Commissioner Dacey went over the changes from the previous version. Typos were corrected in three places. Additional issues were brought up, including the observation that there are differing problems in different neighborhoods, residential versus commercial issues, and that often small businesses do not have trash/recycling service and use the nearby public containers. Nevertheless, this report is considered a good initial step. It was passed (MSC Prevo/Holland with a vote of 9-0-0).

INFORMATION ITEMS:

1. Budget Update on New Sanitary Sewer Rates: Secretary Egeberg reported that numerous scenarios have been studied, particularly on whether UC and BUSD will now be included in "fair share" rates and whether they will actually pay. It now appears that the final approach this year to the rate extensions will be to include UC and BUSD and to set a lower increase (3%) for other users, and then to review at the end of FY 2006 to see whether those agencies pay their full share.

2. Status of Construction Impacts Joint Ad Hoc Subcommittee with the Transportation Commission: No report.

3. Status of Council Tour of Proposed Foothill Bridge Site: This remains on hold.

4. Status Report on Creeks Task Force: Commissioner St. John reported that the Task Force has met three times, and at the last meeting staff gave a presentation on the storm drainage system. Certain members feel that the current ordinance is behind the times, and

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others feel it is too strong. It may be some time before a team effort is played out.

5. Update on University Avenue Pedestrian Improvement Plan: No report.

6. Status of Consolidation of Public Works and Transportation: No report.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS:

1. Status of Public Works Capital Streets Budget (Director Rene Cardinaux)
2. Staff Presentations
 - a. Sanitary Sewer System
 - b. Pavement Management System (PMS) and Five Year Plan
 - c. Environmental Issues
3. Issues Being Deferred for Now
 - a. Street Lighting Standards (including maintenance)
 - b. Recommendation of Street Cleaning Program
 - c. Citywide Plan for future Rule 20A Undergrounding Funds
4. Reports from Liaisons to Other Commissions: Commissioner Prevo provided agendas for two recent meetings of the CEAC.

ADJOURNMENT: 8:25 p.m.